

**CLAYTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Monday, November 3, 2014**  
**The Center of Clayton – Multipurpose Room C**

**Members present:**

Ira Berkowitz	David LaGesse
Cynthia Garnholz	Jeanne Most
Michelle Harris	Eric Schneider
Darryl Higuchi	Mark Stapleton
Jane Klamer	

**Members absent:**

Becky Patel  
Melanie Tamsky

**Also Present:**

Patty DeForrest	Dan Krewson
Wayne Dunker	Toni Siering

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the October meeting were approved.

**Addresses from the Audience:** Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission introduced themselves at the request of an audience member.

**MSD Report on Anderson Park:** The following individuals were on hand for the MSD presentation:

Presenter Brad Levoy, MSD  
Jeff Smith, MSD Project Manager  
Eric Loveless, Parsons Project Manager  
Jessica Perkins, Vectra Communications

Mr. Levoy presented the attached information regarding MSD and the Deer Creek Watershed project, which is a multi-decade, multi-billion dollar project that is not focused on one municipality but the Deer Creek Watershed as a whole. Mr. Levoy described the process, dimensions, expectations and possible timeline for the project. Construction in Anderson Park will be the final phase of the project, which could be slated to begin in 2017 pending final Aldermanic approval.

Questions from Commission members and staff as follows:

Q: Ms. Most asked how long was the tunnel under Anderson Park?

A: The entire tunnel is approximately six miles and will reach to River Des Peres. The section in Anderson Park is a very small portion of the entire tunnel.

Q: Ms. Harris inquired as to easements in Anderson Park?

A: There would be a temporary easement in the whole park during the project and a permanent easement on the left side of the park at the conclusion of the project (currently open area).

Q: Mr. Berkowitz questioned the noise created during the project?

A: When the crane is running, the noise level would be louder. Noise control could be mitigated as the project draws closer.

Q: Ms. Klamer asked if the project was running 24 hours per day?

A: The machine that is underground will run 24 hours per day, but work could be limited to daylight hours pending noise disturbances.

Q: Mr. LaGessee inquired as to the overall duration of the crane operations?

A: The crane would run for approximately six months, with two to four months needed to remove the boring machine.

Q: Ms. Garnholz asked for clarification on the possible noise.

A: The crane operations will take place 150 feet underground, so noise may be limited.

Q: Mr. Schneider asked if this project would reduce the standing water in the Dog Park?

A: This project does not specifically address the standing water issues; however, this can be corrected with re-grading of the site at the completion of the project.

Q: Ms. DeForrest asked when on-site construction would be scheduled to begin?

A: Likely 2018

Questions from audience members as follows:

Q: Will this project have any effect on the culvert behind the homes in Clayshire?

A: No. This is a sanitation sewer project, not a storm water project.

Q: Will there ever be a solution to the flooding from the culvert?

A: There are storm water disconnects, but that is not part of this project.

Q: Is the tubing inside the pipes just a Band-Aid?

A: The tubing creates just as much, if not more, life for the pipes.

Q: What is the decibel level of the noise created during the project?

A: Don't know, but will find out.

Q: Will the Commission address the storm water runoff from the Dog Park?

A: There may be an opportunity to create a detention pond outside of the dog park to take excess water from the culvert – which may include wetlands, outdoor classroom possibilities. MSD to check if federal funding would be available for such a project.

Q: Will there be any groundwater contamination?

A: There should be none during the digging.

Q: What is the depth of the green sewers?

A: 20 feet below the surface. This will connect old and new sewer lines.

Q: What happens to the surface during construction?

A: There will be trenching through the park (including the Dog Park). The Dog Park would need to be re-constructed, including re-grading and landscaping, as part of the project – which would be a chance to redevelop the entire site. There may be an opportunity to temporarily relocate the Dog Park during construction, which would need to go back to the Commission for further consideration.

Q: Would there be earth quaking during the project?

A: There will be minimal quaking on the way down, similar to digging a basement.

Q: What happens to damaged homes?

A: A pre-inspection of all homes in the area will be conducted, as well as a post-project inspection.

Follow-up question from Ms. DeForrest:

Q: What should residents in the surrounding area look for?

A: MSD was on hand to get feedback from the Parks and Recreation Commission and local residents, followed by comments from the Board of Aldermen. Once approval of an easement is received, there will be approximately 18 months of design. A more specific timeline will be developed as the project progresses. Residents are urged to visit [projectclearSTL.org](http://projectclearSTL.org) for more specific details as the project continues and link to this site could be placed on the City's website.

**Shaw Park Master Plan Overlay:** Ms. DeForrest stated there would be no vote on the Shaw Park Master Plan Overlay tonight, as clarification from the School District of Clayton is needed regarding the proposed link project. Ms. DeForrest would like to focus on landscaping and turf enhancements on the shared property, as well as clarify the expectations of both parties. Ms. Klammer indicated that she would like to have conversations with her Board for clarification as well, but does not see this space as a programmed area. Ms. DeForrest indicated there would be additional discussion with the Commission should the project come forward.

Ms. DeForrest reported that the CCF is working with a donor, in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation Department, for a project at the north end of Shaw Park. The Commission will have input on the final project design.

**Old Business / New Business:** Ms. DeForrest stated that the City is taking under consideration accepting, on loan, an art piece by Gregory Stephens entitled "One of Us" (see attached photo). The Gateway Foundation is interested in placing the art piece near the Tree Top Playground in Shaw Park and will cover the cost of installation and landscaping. Ms. DeForrest did not know how long the piece would be on loan, but noted that the City would like the opinion of the Commission. The Commission had the following questions:

Q: Ms. Klammer asked if the piece was climbable?

A: Yes. It is approximately 20 feet wide x 17 feet tall, and would be visible from Parkside Dr. The art is approximately 17,000 pounds and is bronze.

Q: Mr. Schneider asked how many trees would need to be removed to place the art at the suggested site?

A: One tree, which could be moved.

Q: Mr. Higuchi inquired as to why the artist picked Clayton?

A: Based on reputation, affinity for public art and Master Plan

Q: Mr. Schneider asked if there was any other location that might be more suitable?

A: The hope is to have the piece in a highly visible location, near children. Another site may be near Fields 9-10, close to the Centennial Greenway.

Q: Ms. Klammer inquired if there could be soft surfacing under the piece in case of falls.

A: Soft surfacing is a possibility.

Mr. Berkowitz was concerned that the size of the piece would take over the space near the playground. Mr. Schneider commented that that would be risks associated with climbing on the art piece and felt that it may detract from the Tree Top playground by obstructing views.

In conclusion, the Commission agreed that they liked the art piece overall, like the climbable aspect, but did have concerns over the suggested location. Mr. Schneider moved to accept the loan of "One of Us" art piece by Gregory Stephens, pending approval of the final placement of the piece. Ms. Klammer seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passes.

**Director's Report:** Ms. DeForrest recently met with individuals interested in a heating/cooling element to extend the lap swimming season at Shaw Park Aquatic Center. She will connect with the CCF for fundraising opportunities related to this project.

Ms. DeForrest stated that the Clayton Early Childhood Center has begun construction on their new playground. She is still finalizing agreement with MSD and a possible new tenant for the Artists' Guild building.

Ms. DeForrest reported that the Dog Park opened to corporate citizens and non-residents as of November 1. Staff is currently preparing for the opening of the Ice Rink. Hanley House will be open for holiday tours during December, which is new this year. Parks staff is working on winterizing facilities and parks.

Ms. DeForrest noted that there was a change in mulching operations for the City this year. A temporary leaf transfer station was located on Shaw Park Drive so that collected leaves could be hauled away. The City is hoping to get rid of the mulch pile due to EPA stipulations. This would eliminate free mulch for residents, but leaf collection would continue. There would be no mulch container on Shaw Park Drive.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm

Respectfully Submitted By:

Toni Siering